

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OAS

SUBJECT:SAN JOSE OAS MEETING

USDEL SAN JOSE FOR MAILLIARD

FOLLOWING GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR USE OF DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN
AT NOON BRIEFING JULY 17 (NO QUESTIONS ASKED AT BRIEFING):

Q: IS THE U.S. TAKING THE LEAD ON SOLVING THE CUBA SANC-
TIONS ISSUE IN SAN JOSE? FROM PRESS REPORTS OF AMBASSADOR
MAILLIARD'S STATEMENTS AND OF THE CIRCULATION OF A U.S.
POSITION PAPER AMONG THE DELEGATES DOWN THERE, IT WOULD
SEEM SO.

A: NO. AMBASSADOR MAILLIARD SAID AT A PRESS CONFERENCE
THE DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD GO
ALONG WITH A RESOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM THAT COMMENDED
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ITSELF TO A SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF COUNTRIES. THAT POSITION

IS CONSISTENT WITH THE ONE WE HELD TO AT THE MAY MEETING OF THE OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY. FOURTEEN COUNTRIES WOULD HAVE TO APPROVE ANY PROPOSAL ON CHANGING CUBAN SANCTIONS. IF ANY COUNTRY COULD BE SAID TO BE TAKING THE LEAD, IT IS MEXICO.

Q: IS THE U.S. CIRCULATING A PROPOSAL THAT MEMBERS BE GIVEN FREEDOM OF ACTION WITH RESPECT TO CUBA?

A: NO. THERE IS NO U.S. PROPOSAL. WE UNDERSTAND THAT VARIOUS DELEGATIONS ARE CIRCULATING PROPOSALS. THE MEXICANS IN PARTICULAR HAVE A DRAFT RESOLUTION IN SPANISH AND IN ENGLISH THEY ARE SUPPORTING AND SHOPPING AROUND.

Q: IS IT TRUE AS AMBASSADOR MAILLIARD IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT THERE ARE ENOUGH VOTES TO SOLVE THIS PROBLEM IN SAN JOSE?

A: AMBASSADOR MAILLIARD SAID THAT HE THOUGHT THERE MIGHT BE 14 VOTES, BUT THAT HE WAS NOT DOING THE COUNTING AND WAS NOT SURE.

Q: WILL THE U.S. VOTE TO LIFT THE SANCTIONS?

A: THAT DEPENDS ON THE TEXT OF THE RESOLUTION, AND HOW STRONG THE CONSENSUS AMONG THE LATINS IS WHEN AND IF IT IS PUT TO A VOTE. KISSINGER

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